

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE REC

MAY 1 2 2004

In re Application of:

Robert D. Barnes et al.

Technology Center 2600

Serial No.:

09/448,940

Group Art Unit:

2624

Examiner:

Do, Anh Hong

Filed:

For:

November 24, 1999

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IMAGE DATA COMPRESSION

Atty. Docket:

GEMS:0071/YOD

EMPLOYING MULTIPLE

15-IS-5393

COMPRESSION CODE TABLES

Mail Stop: Non-Fee Amendments Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.8

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05/04/2004

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED FEBRUARY 26, 2004

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on February 26, 2004. In the Office Action, the Examiner reopened prosecution based on a new ground of rejection. However, after careful review of the cited reference, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-27 are allowable, as discussed below.